

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee Meeting
DECEMBER 2, 2021
9:38 AM – 11:36 AM

Committee Members

Brett Andrews
Julia D'Antonio
Jennifer Friedenbach
Julie Leadbetter
Lena Miller
Ken Reggio
Shanell Williams

This meeting was held by WebEx pursuant to the Governor's Executive Orders and Mayoral Emergency Proclamations suspending and modifying requirements for in-person meetings. During the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) emergency, the Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee (OCOH) will convene remotely until the Committee is legally authorized to meet in person.

Note: The Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee meetings are live streamed at SFGovTV.org. The agenda, video recording, audio recording, and caption notes are posted at https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=209. Supporting materials including presentations and reports are posted at <https://sfcontroller.org/meetings/220>.

1) ***Call to Order, Roll Call, Ramaytush Ohlone Land Acknowledgement***

Roll Call:

Member Andrews: Present
Vice Chair D'Antonio: Present
Member Friedenbach: Joined late
Member Leadbetter: Present
Member Miller: Absent
Member Reggio: Present
Chair Williams: Present

We acknowledge that we are on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone who are the original inhabitants of the San Francisco Peninsula. As the indigenous stewards of this land and in accordance with their traditions, the Ramaytush Ohlone have never ceded, lost nor forgotten their responsibilities as the caretakers of this place, as well as for all peoples who reside in their traditional territory. As guests, we recognize that we benefit from living and working on their traditional homeland. We wish to pay our respects by acknowledging the ancestors, elders and relatives of the Ramaytush Community and by affirming their sovereign rights as First Peoples.

2) Discussion Item/Possible Action:

Approval, with possible modification, of the Minutes of the October 28, 2021 Meeting and the Special Meetings on November 3 and November 4, 2021.

There was no public comment on this agenda item.

Member Andrews moved to approve the minutes of October 28, 2021; November 3, 2021; and November 4, 2021. Member Friedenbach seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Member Andrews: Yes
Vice Chair D'Antonio: Yes
Member Friedenbach: Yes
Member Leadbetter: Yes
Member Miller: Absent
Member Reggio: Yes
Chair Williams: Yes

The motion passed.

3) Discussion Item/Possible Action:

Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Teleconferenced Meetings of Policy Bodies during COVID-19 Emergency.

Jessica Shimmin, Controller's Office staff to the Committee, explained the requirement to pass a resolution considering the circumstances of the state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic and to continue meeting by teleconferencing.

RESOLVED, That the Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee finds as follows:

The State of California and the City remain in a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. At this meeting, the Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee has considered the circumstances of the state of emergency.

State and City officials continue to recommend measures to promote physical distancing and other social distancing measures, in some settings.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, conducting meetings of this body in person would present imminent risks to the safety of attendees, and the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of members to meet safely in person.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That for at least the next 30 days meetings of the Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee will continue to occur exclusively by teleconferencing technology (and not by any in-person meetings or any other meetings with public access to the places where any policy body member is present for the meeting). Such meetings of the Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee that occur by teleconferencing technology will provide an opportunity for members of the public to address this body and will otherwise occur in a manner that protects the statutory and constitutional rights of parties and the members of the public attending the meeting via teleconferencing.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the secretary and staff of the Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee is directed to place a resolution substantially similar to this resolution on the agenda of a future meeting of the Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee within the next 30 days. If the Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee does not meet within the next 30 days, the staff is directed to place such a resolution on the agenda of the next meeting of the Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee.

There were no public comments.

Chair Williams called a vote to pass this resolution.

Roll Call Vote:

Member Andrews: Absent for this vote
Vice Chair D'Antonio: Yes
Member Friedenbach: Yes
Member Leadbetter: Yes
Member Miller: Absent
Member Reggio: Yes
Chair Williams: Yes

The motion passed.

4) Discussion Item/Possible Action:

Election of Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee Officers.

Jessica Shimmin (CON) presented guidelines and process for electing Officers. Officer roles are named and described in the bylaws. Member Williams and Member D'Antonio volunteered to continue serving as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively.

Member Leadbetter suggested that at some point the Committee revisit the bylaws around roles and term limits. Member Leadbetter asked whether vacant seats impact quorum requirements. However, Member Leadbetter said that none of these issues are urgent.

Member Andrews agreed with Member Leadbetter and suggested that the Committee consider the benefits and drawbacks of term limits at a future date.

Member Friedenbach said that the Committee's calendar will be fully consumed by the budget process, which begins immediately in 2022. Member Friedenbach said Chair Williams and Vice Chair D'Antonio have done a great job and she was glad to hear they are interested in continuing to serve in these roles.

Member Friedenbach moved to elect Member Williams as Committee Chair.

Member Friedenbach moved to elect Member D'Antonio as Committee Vice Chair.

Member Reggio seconded Member Friedenbach's motion to elect Member Williams as Committee Chair.

Member Reggio seconded Member Friedenbach's motion to elect Member D'Antonio as Committee Vice Chair.

There were no public comments.

[note: the committee took an initial vote, but as it was not clearly connected to a specific motion, the Committee opted to re-vote on both motions. The result of those votes is recorded below.]

Roll Call Vote on motion to elect Member Williams as Committee Chair.

Member Andrews: Yes
Vice Chair D'Antonio: Yes
Member Friedenbach: Yes
Member Leadbetter: Yes
Member Miller: Absent
Member Reggio: Yes
Chair Williams: Yes

The motion passed. Member Williams is elected Chair.

Roll Call Vote on motion to elect Member D'Antonio as Committee Vice Chair.

Member Andrews: Yes

Vice Chair D'Antonio: Yes
Member Friedenbach: Yes
Member Leadbetter: Yes
Member Miller: Absent
Member Reggio: Yes
Chair Williams: Yes

The motion passed. Member D'Antonio is elected Vice Chair.

5) Discussion Item/Possible Action:

Presentation from the Office of Workforce Development, with discussion and possible action by the Committee (35 min)

Director Josh Arce and Jen Hand from the Office of Economic and Workforce Development were joined by Noelle Simmons, Chief Deputy Director at the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing, and Cristelle Blackford, Chief Engagement Officer at CivicMakers. These partners presented on the results of their collaborative planning process around the system for delivering workforce development services to people experiencing homelessness. Slides from this presentation [are located here](#), beginning at slide 9.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

Chair Williams opened the agenda item to Committee discussion.

Member Friedenbach said that Rapid Re-Housing may not be appropriate for clients who need job readiness training. Those clients may need a permanent housing support. She acknowledged that market rents in the Bay Area are a significant obligation. Member Friedenbach suggested pairing workforce with prevention to ensure lasting housing stabilization.

Member Reggio asked what proportion of adults in Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) use Earn and Learn or other workforce programs? Chief Deputy Director Simmons (HSH) responded that the RRH program is scaled to serve 165 households in a year, and only one provider has started service delivery. Because the workforce program participants are being drawn from the non-congregate shelter programs, which prioritized older adults and adults with chronic health conditions, program participants may need more supports. Chief Deputy Director Simmons reported that employment specialists will be dedicated to serving the 165 RRH households, to ensure they have a specific person providing ongoing support. And, while Earn and Learn may not be the right fit for these RRH households, they may still benefit from the broad array of services available through workforce development. Chief Deputy Director Simmons summarized that the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing is trying to serve as many homeless households as possible, while also prioritizing the rapid re-housing clients. Director Arce (OEWD) said that workforce programs are geared toward job placement so that even job readiness program participants will gain employment and earn income.

Member Andrews said that state dollars are restrictive and prevent disabled clients from participating in workforce services. He encouraged keeping local investments as flexible as possible. Member Andrews also asked City partners not to leave OCOH dollars unspent, even if they must repurpose the funds. As an example, Member Andrews said that workforce programs must be tailored to the client's, not the provider's, priorities.

Member Leadbetter asked the Committee to remain flexible around workforce programs. She asked for a separate meeting about how the workforce dollars are being spent so that she can answer community questions. She said that the Committee took a risk in recommending RRH, and workforce was a way of making that recommendation more supportive and less risky.

Vice Chair D'Antonio said she would like to hear from participants in workforce development. She participated in workforce development in the past and noticed a lack of autonomy and choice that undermines participants' motivation.

Member Friedenbach said that households living off lease and at risk of homelessness should be targeted for workforce development as homelessness prevention.

Director Arce (OEWD) thanked the Committee. He said connecting workforce development with prevention services is promising and within their scope. He said that the programs discussed are not the only workforce services for homeless households; there are specialized job centers for persons with disabilities and veterans, among others.

Chief Deputy Director Simmons (HSH) likewise thanked the Committee.

6) Discussion Item/Possible Action:

Discussion of Liaison Workplans with possible action by the Committee

Chair Williams announced the Mayor's Appointment of [Michelle Cunningham](#) to seat 7 on the Committee.

The Permanent Housing and Pipeline Liaison, Community Impact and Accountability Liaison, Emergency Shelter and Hygiene Liaison, and Data Officer reviewed their proposed workplans, beginning at slide 43 [located here](#).

Member Friedenbach said that Committee Members might try to make budget recommendations before the Departments give their recommendations to the Mayor in February. She acknowledged this timeline would be ambitious.

Member Friedenbach noted that the Shelter and Hygiene programs are up and running. She concluded that there won't be a lot of room in the budget for new programs.

Member Leadbetter asked the Committee to consider how to coordinate the 3-year needs assessment, 2-year budget, and annual budget recommendation process.

Vice Chair D'Antonio suggested collecting Committee and Community input into questions for people with lived expertise.

Member Andrews suggested the Committee develop a consistent way of engaging with community stakeholders, so that each area of fund investment receives equal attention. He said the Committee also would benefit from engagement with Mental Health SF as well as the Office of Racial Equity (ORE).

Vice Chair D'Antonio said Community Engagement will focus on a few large meetings in the winter that provide an overview of the Committee's work, and then a town hall to review budget proposals in the spring.

Member Friedenbach said that the DPH bed tracking dashboard has been useful and provides a possible model for the Committee's dashboarding.

In the interests of time Vice Chair D'Antonio suggested reviewing the Prevention, Behavioral Health, and Lived Expertise workplans at the January meeting.

Reagan Joern of Bay Area Legal Aid provided public comment. She asked the Committee to think about how civil legal services fit into the Committee's recommendations. The caller said there is a shortage of funding for benefits advocacy in San Francisco, including for programs proven to increase housing stability. Bay Area Legal Aid would be happy to meet with Committee Members to discuss the services and possible recommendation in greater depth.

7) Discussion Item/Possible Action:

Propose agenda items for subsequent meetings and provide Committee updates, with possible action by the Committee in response to this item.

Member Reggio asked for a report on permanent housing acquisition and development from HSH and the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development (MOHCD).

Member Andrews proposed three agenda items. First, an update on State initiatives to better understand the connection between state and local investments. Second, Member Andrews asked for a presentation from Mental Health SF. Third, he asked the Committee to prioritize legal advocacy in the budget and to receive a presentation from the coalition of service providers.

Vice Chair D'Antonio asked for a presentation from the Housing Authority on federal housing dollars. Vice Chair D'Antonio asked for a presentation from a UCSF doctor on health outcomes from the shelter in place hotels.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

8) ***Adjourn***

Vice Chair D'Antonio moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Andrews seconded the motion to adjourn.

Roll Call Vote:

Member Andrews: Yes
Vice Chair D'Antonio: Yes
Member Friedenbach: Yes
Member Leadbetter: Absent
Member Miller: Absent
Member Reggio: Yes
Chair Williams: Yes

The meeting adjourned at 11:36AM.

Committee staff and members can be reached at OCOH.CON@sfgov.org.